

will require some manual billing work, plus some feature limitations (i.e., the Automatic Recall and Automatic Callback CLASS features will not work). The advantage is a number portability solution which requires little new switch development effort.

The Selection Committee members voted as follows for an implementation plan. Note that this is not a vote on whether or not to implement a number portability solution, but a vote that if LRN is ordered as the number portability solution, which of the two proposed implementation plans would be supported:

AT&T:	LRN, but if the LRN schedule is delayed significantly, they would advocate CPC as an interim solution
BellSouth:	LRN
MCI Metro:	CPC to LRN
MediaOne:	LRN
MFS:	LRN, but if it becomes evident that LRN is delayed significantly, CPC as a transitional solution to LRN is favorable
Sprint:	Not present
Standard:	LRN
AT&T Wireless:	LRN
AirTouch:	LRN
BellSouth Mobility:	LRN
GTE Mobilnet:	Not Present

There was unanimous agreement by the Selection Committee members present that if LRN is available by the second to third quarter of 1997, that it does not make sense to go with the CPC to LRN implementation plan option.

MCI Metro stated that they have significant concerns on whether the current LRN schedule for a second to third quarter, 1997 ready date could be met. MCI Metro has no confidence in the ability of all switch vendors to meet the LRN schedule, therefore they recommend first implementing CPC. Other Selection Committee members, including AT&T, BellSouth, MediaOne, Standard, AT&T Wireless, AirTouch, and BellSouth Mobility, had confidence in the ability and commitment of the switch vendors to meet the LRN schedule and voted to focus on LRN.

Two key issues surrounding the implementation options are the schedules for deployment and the associated risk factors. These two issues are discussed below.

3.2 Network Implementation Schedules

There are four major work efforts that must be scheduled and coordinated for the successful network implementation of a database number portability solution, which are:

- a) Availability of switch vendor functionality
- b) Availability of a neutral third party SMS system
- c) Availability of Service Providers' SCP and SMS Functionality
- d) Availability of Service Providers' internal Operational Support Systems (OSS), Billing systems and associated Methods and Procedures

Each of these items are briefly discussed below. A high level summary timeline chart for both the LRN and the CPC to LRN implementation plans are included in Attachment #7.

3.2.a. Switch Vendor Functionality:

Switch vendors were asked to state their current level of commitment for their major switch types for both implementation plans. Other switch types exist in Georgia and were not addressed at this time. Following are the switch vendor's most current responses as reported to the Selection Committee:

LRN:

AT&T indicated that they have committed to meeting the LRN dates as discussed below. This includes having resources identified, internal funding secured, and work underway. They are building to the Illinois requirements. (Note: FOA = First Office Application; GA = General Availability)

- 5ESS: 5E-11 Generic GA = 4Q96;
LRN Feature: FOA = 12/96, GA = 3/97
- 1AESS: LRN Feature: FOA = 1Q97, GA = 2Q97
- 4ESS: LRN Feature: FOA = 1Q97, GA = 2Q97

Siemens indicated that they have committed to meeting the LRN dates as discussed below. This includes having resources identified, internal funding secured, and work underway. They are building to the Illinois requirements.

- Siemens EWSD: FOA = 3/97, GA = 6/97

Nortel indicated that they have committed to meeting the LRN dates as discussed below. This includes having resources identified, internal

funding secured, and work underway. They are building to the Illinois requirements.

- DMS 100 and 100/200: FOA = 3/97, GA = 6/97

Ericsson was not present and provided no modifications to their dates, shown as follows:

- Ericsson: FOA = 1Q97, GA = 2Q97

CPC:

Based on the assumptions discussed in a recent conference call with MCI Metro, AT&T, Nortel and Siemens, AT&T Network Systems believes that the Basic LRN solution can be used to support CPC implementation. The assumptions are expected to be documented in a Generic Requirements (GR) by Siemens no later than January 31, 1996. The full Selection Committee must review and accept these assumptions.

AT&T switches will not explicitly recognize that CPCs are being used. Additional development may be required on the 1A-ESS switch to swap the CPC for the NPA at the terminating end of all calls to portable NPA-NXX groups if 10 digits are delivered to the end office and the switch serves subscribers in more than one NPA. This development is currently not planned because no customer has requested this capability.

If triggers for other AIN services will be active on the 4ESS switch and LNP queries will be launched from the 4ESS switch, the LRN feature must be deployed (FOA 1Q97, GA 2Q97). If no other triggers for AIN services are activated on the 4ESS switch while CPC is in use, existing AIN triggers can be used to launch the LNP query at the 4ESS switch.

AT&T Network Systems is not currently planning to test CPC implementation on AT&T switches, but will commit to this testing if and when CPC implementation is ordered by the Commission and/or purchased by customers.

Given these assumptions, the availability dates for CPC are as follows (which are the same dates as LRN):

- 5ESS: 5E-11 Generic GA = 4Q96;
LRN Feature: FOA = 12/96, GA = 3/97
- 1AESS: LRN Feature: FOA = 1Q97, GA = 2Q97
- 4ESS: LRN Feature: FOA = 1Q97, GA = 2Q97

Nortel indicated that they would take the NY trial version and make it a commercial application. This effort is currently funded and underway. Following is their schedule:

DMS-100 and 200: GA 12/96

Siemens indicated that they are building off the NY trial. There would also be billing issues to resolve. This effort is currently funded and underway. Following is their schedule:
Siemens EWSD: GA 12/96

Ericsson provided feedback to MFS, indicating that a CPC development is feasible, but that more discussion is needed before a firm deployment date could be established.

3.2.b. Neutral Third Party SMS Schedule:

To meet the overall timeline requirements, the Selection Committee felt that the neutral third party SMS would need to be installed, tested and ready to support service by the following dates:

LRN: May, 1997 is a must-have date, 1Q97 is a preferred date
CPC: February, 1997 is a must have date

The SMS Subcommittee developed a timeline as detailed in Attachment #8. The Final Turn-Up date identified by the SMS Subcommittee is June 3, 1997. The SMS Subcommittee felt that this was a very aggressive schedule, and that it met the needs of the overall LRN timeline.

The SMS Subcommittee looked at alternative ways to improve the schedule to meet the CPC Implementation Plan dates. The SMS Subcommittee felt that if the SMS selection process resulted in the Georgia selection of the same SMS vendor as is selected in Illinois, and if we accept the Illinois requirements as adequate for the initial implementation, we could save approximately 3 months in the overall SMS schedule.

Some members of the Selection Committee (MCI Metro and AT&T) felt that the SMS schedule was too long and that it could be shortened considerably. They felt that the schedule was not acceptable, from their perspective. Other members of the Selection Committee felt that the SMS Subcommittee were the experts and that we should rely on their opinion.

It was agreed that the Selection Committee would request the SMS Subcommittee to look at ways to shorten the schedule to meet the two Implementation Plan timelines.

3.2.c. Availability of a Service Providers SCP and SMS Functionality

It will be necessary for each Service Provider participating in number portability to provide a Service Control Point (SCP) database functionality and a SMS functionality. This can be either built or leased, depending on the Service Provider's preference. There may also be a need for other wireline connecting companies to provide a SCP functionality.

To meet the LRN schedule, a Service Provider's internal SCP and SMS system/functionality would need to be ready for service by May, 1997. The Wireline Service Providers impacted indicated that the May, 1997 date is possible, based on their preliminary evaluations, and dependent on vendor capabilities. Standard indicated that most Independent LECs in Georgia do not have this capability and are dependent on the ability to lease or arrange for this functionality and they are not sure if this date can be met.

To meet the CPC schedule, a Service Provider's internal SCP/SMS system/functionality would need to be ready for service by January, 1997. AT&T and MCI indicated that this date was possible. BST indicated that this date is possible for the SMS, but not sure for an SCP. There is still some internal evaluation that needs to be completed. MediaOne indicated that March, 1997 is their estimated ready date. Standard indicated that most Independent LECs in Georgia do not have this capability and are dependent on the ability to lease or arrange for this functionality and they are not sure if this date can be met.

3.2.d Service Provider Internal OSS, Billing Systems and Methods and Procedures

The implementation of a database number portability solution will require the modification to many OSS and Billing systems. In addition, it will be necessary to modify existing methods and procedures, both internal to a Service Provider, intercompany, and with connecting companies.

To meet the LRN schedule, all internal OSS, billing systems and operational planning would need to be completed by May, 1997. This still requires additional internal evaluation by each company to determine the extent of the impacts and work required.

To meet the CPC schedule, all internal OSS, billing systems and operational planning would need to be completed by February, 1997. This still requires additional internal evaluation by each company to determine the extent of the impacts and work required.

3.3 Risk Factors

The Selection Committee identified the following risk factors that are associated with each implementation plan:

3.3.a LRN Risk Factors:

Switch Related:

1. If a significant change is recommended by service providers to the existing Illinois Switch and Billing requirements document, there will

be a delay (six to twelve months) in the LRN implementation schedule. Minor changes may or may not impact the schedule.

2. The ability for the switch vendors to meet the current commitment dates with a fully functional product.
3. Lab testing could identify significant issues needing additional time for development fixes.
4. The Service Provider deployment schedule for new generics required to support the LRN Feature Package.

SMS Related:

1. All SMS issues need to be resolved in a timely manner.
2. The ability of the SMS vendor to meet the schedule of May, 1997.

General Items:

1. The Commission's order, or lack there of, could impact the schedule and the willingness of companies to meet the schedule.

3.3.b. CPC Risk Factors:

Switch Related

1. If a significant change is recommended by service providers to the existing switch requirements document, there may be a delay (six to twelve months) in the CPC implementation schedule. Minor changes may or may not impact the schedule.
2. The ability for the switch vendors to meet the current commitment dates with a fully functional product.
3. New York Trial or Lab testing could identify significant issues needing additional time for development/fixes.
4. The Service Provider deployment schedule for new generics required to support the CPC Feature Package.
5. (Pending Action Item work) The ability of the 1A ESS to support CPC, since there are currently no requirements/plans to modify these switches.
6. The transition from CPC to LRN (how, timing, impacts). A draft transition sequence overview, developed by AT&T, Siemens, Nortel and MCI Metro is included in Attachment #9.

7. What are the implications on the LRN schedules with the CPC focus.

SMS Related:

1. All SMS issues need to be resolved in a timely manner.
2. The ability of the SMS vendor to meet the schedule of February 1997.

General Items:

1. The Commission's order, or lack thereof, could impact the schedule and the willingness of companies to meet the schedule.

3.4 Location Planning Assumptions

This Section addresses the issue of how the industry decides when and where to implement database number portability in Georgia. The Selection Committee worked on developing a preliminary process for making the location selections. There is still a fair amount of work required to finalize this process, but following are the current working assumptions:

1. Portability locations will be phased-in, rather than via a flash-cut of all of Georgia.
2. Numbers will be made portable on an NXX basis. However, not all Directory Numbers within a portable NXX may be portable (e.g., individual PBX trunks within a group of trunks, individual Centrex lines within a Centrex block, blocks of numbers for Type 1 cellular interconnect, etc.).
3. The following method is proposed for defining which locations and NXXs are identified as portable, who is involved, and when locations will be portable:
 - The industry will jointly decide where and when number portability will be implemented in Georgia. Number portability will be phased-in on a gradual basis, starting in the 404 and 770 area code locations.
 - The specific locations for the initial implementation of number portability will be jointly decided, based upon:
 - the date-certain ordered by the Commission for the introduction of number portability
 - the needs of the newly certified LECs as defined by their ranking of the desired NXXs to be made portable
 - the capabilities of the switching systems to support the number portability solution

- the capacity of the SS-7 network to support number portability
- the capability of OAM&Ps to support number portability
- The implementation of additional locations will also be jointly decided upon using the same method, with specific implementation time frames agreed upon.
- If the industry can not reach agreement on the initial implementation locations by March 1, 1996, the issue will be referred to the GPSC for resolution. It is requested that the Commission resolve the issue within 60 days, in order to maintain the aggressive implementation schedule. For additional locations, the industry can also request Commission intervention if agreements can not be made in a timely manner.

4.0 IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING ISSUES

4.1 Introduction

The Georgia Number Portability Selection Committee recognizes that the actual implementation of a number portability capability will require the ongoing efforts of an industry implementation committee to continually refine the solution and address issues as they arise. The Selection Committee therefore adopted as an operating assumption that "There will be an ongoing implementation organization and committee structure to project manage and work the issues associated with the implementation of database number portability in Georgia".

The Selection Committee has completed some initial implementation work; however, it should be noted that there is a considerable amount of effort required, both in the planning and actual implementation stages, to implement a database number portability capability in Georgia. The work completed to date by the Selection Committee sets the framework and identifies some of the issues and assumptions, but there is still a significant amount of industry coordination and individual service provider effort required.

Fundamentally, the Selection Committee believes that the Commission, through the proposed implementation committee, should allow the industry reasonable and adequate time to address the various issues involved with number portability and make recommendations to the Commission as to the actual resolution of these issues.

4.2 Assumptions

During its deliberations, the Selection Committee has developed a list of operating assumptions to guide the further work activities of the proposed implementation committee. As noted above, the most significant of these is that an implementation committee will indeed be established to guide the future work activities to implement number portability in Georgia. Other assumptions are as follows:

- (1) Service providers agree to match BST Rate Centers for NXX code assignment for the initial implementation of service provider portability to minimize billing disruptions. We will monitor the work of the industry ICCF workshop for future modifications to this working assumption. (Note: MediaOne is concerned with the number of NXX codes that will be used based on this assumption and suggests continued discussions in this area.)
- (2) Service providers agree that the initial implementation of service provider portability should not be delayed because of considerations related to the deployment of location portability.

- (3) Service Providers that have numbers porting out of their network will provide a default (fail safe) functionality, via a database dip and subsequent routing, to ensure call completion.
- (4) Each Service Provider may arrange for its own SCP functionality.
- (5) The SMS will download to networks on a synchronous basis.
- (6) There is a need for a Commission Order addressing: whether the current work of the Selection Committee is on track and accepted; and the need to move forward with an implementation plan. The Commission Order is needed by February to keep the implementation schedule on track.
- (7) The Selection Committee reached consensus that the permanent Long Term Number Portability call model solution for Georgia is the LRN (Location Routing Number) proposed by AT&T, and should be implemented with the following caveats: a) that there is an appropriate implementation plan, and b) that there are appropriate cost recovery mechanisms in place.
- (8) The industry needs to develop an appropriate cost recovery mechanism. The Selection Committee recommends that the industry work the cost recovery issue according to the following schedule and process:
 - Receipt of Commission Order on the implementation of number portability by February, 1996.
 - The industry target date for reaching resolution on the cost recovery mechanism is April 1, 1996.
 - If resolution is not achieved by that date, the issue will be sent to the Commission with information identifying the best options and the pros and cons of each option.
 - Any delay beyond June 1, 1996 to resolve the issue and issue an Order may delay the implementation of number portability in Georgia
- (9) Wireless NXXs and Directory Numbers are assumed not to be portable at this time.

It is anticipated that additional operating assumptions may be documented as implementation committee activities commence.

4.3 Committee Structure

The Selection Committee recommends that the implementation of number portability in Georgia be managed by an industry implementation committee. The proposed implementation committee structure is depicted on Attachment

#10. Briefly, the responsibility of the various groups comprising this structure will be as follows:

Steering Committee:

- Overall responsibility for the coordination of the implementation
- Coordination between subcommittees
- Interface to the GPSC

SMS Subcommittee:

- Facilitate the selection and implementation of an SMS system for Georgia
- Define the SMS architecture
- Identify and determine the required business relationships and processes

Cost Recovery Subcommittee:

- Orchestration of the cost recovery process

Network Implementation Planning Subcommittee:

- Overall project management
- Coordination between reporting teams

Requirements Team:

- Review existing requirements documents for compliance with Georgia requirements

Rating and Billing Team:

- Identify and resolve all billing issues
- Finalize the billing requirements
- Develop and implement a billing test plan
- Identify and work any rating issues

Operations Team:

- Identify and recommend the appropriate procedures for intercompany interactions, including provisioning, repair, etc.
- Evaluate what modifications are required due to database portability to existing intercompany procedures including Directory Assistance, white and yellow pages, ordering, etc.
- Develop and implement an end-to-end test plan for number portability

Operator Services Team:

- Identify and resolve all Operator Services requirements and issues
- Develop and implement an Operator Services test plan

Legal Subcommittee:

- Provide legal input, where appropriate, to the appropriate teams to assist in issue resolution

4.4 SMS Work

The Selection Committee has recognized that a neutral third party ported number administration system will be a critical element of an overall number portability solution and as such will directly impact the time frame in which this solution will be available. Consequently, the Committee has already formed the SMS Subcommittee proposed on Attachment #10 and the subcommittee has been active since late October, 1995.

A significant work effort of the SMS subcommittee has been to establish a timeline associated with the selection of the system vendor and the actual deployment of the system. This is a critical activity since, as noted above, the availability of the system will directly impact the implementation time frame associated with the overall number portability solution. The timeline upon which the SMS subcommittee reached consensus was discussed in Section 3.0, and is depicted on Attachment #8.

To date, the SMS subcommittee has identified 43 issues requiring resolution. These issues are included in Attachment #11. As noted on the SMS timeline, resolution of these issues is targeted for April 1, 1996. The subcommittee has also documented several key working assumptions underlying its ongoing work efforts. These are as follows:

- No significant modifications to the Illinois third party ported number administration requirements will be required by the Georgia Workshop members for the Georgia RFP.
- Any cost recovery method issues are resolved by April 1, 1996.
- All scheduled activities are completed on time.
Key aspects are: SMS related issues are resolved, the consortium is operational, the Illinois requirements are received, other subcommittee issues related to the third party system are resolved, and the subcommittees are established the first of January.
- The third party system vendor selected can meet the proposed timeline.
- Any operating test plan developed will include testing of upload/download plans for SMS.

4.5 Open Issues

During its deliberations on number portability, the Selection Committee has identified a number of open issues requiring resolution. A number of these have been associated with the anticipated efforts of the proposed implementation committee and are identified above. In addition, numerous issues as noted in Attachment #11 have also been identified by the SMS subcommittee. Remaining open issues identified by the Selection Committee are as follows:

- (1) Monitor switch vendor availability and schedules.

- (2) Identify which switch types are not capable of supporting number portability.
- (3) Develop a detailed end-to-end timeline for implementation.
- (4) The impacts on existing interconnection agreements/stipulations and connecting carrier agreements need to be evaluated, including the impacts on wireless interconnection.
- (5) There are no dates currently available to update the wireless switches for wireless number portability.
- (6) Evaluate existing SS-7 network capacity to support LNP, including STP capacity.
- (7) Assess the impact of LNP on existing switches to determine if there is sufficient processor capacity, etc.

It is anticipated that additional issues requiring resolution will be identified by the implementation committee as further work activities commence.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The issues dealing with a database number portability solution for Georgia are very complex. Differing business objectives and concerns about economic and cost impacts have caused the various companies represented on the Selection Committee to reach different conclusions on some issues. Thus, it has been difficult to reach total agreement on the vast number of issues and options associated with this undertaking.

The Selection Committee has agreed to provide the following set of recommendations to the Commission. It should be noted that some of the recommendations do not have unanimous support of the Selection Committee, but are included to provide the Commission with a fair representation of the opinions of the Selection Committee members. To clarify the position of each Selection Committee member on each recommendation, Selection Committee members are identified as either "Full Supporters", "Supporters with Caveats", or "Non Supporters". The recommendations address three major areas: I) the permanent long term number portability call model; II) the implementation plan; and III) an industry process.

I) PERMANENT LONG TERM CALL MODEL:

Recommendation #1: LRN as the Permanent Long Term Solution

Full Supporters: AT&T, BellSouth Telecommunications, MCI Metro, MediaOne, MFS, Standard, AirTouch, AT&T Wireless

Supporters with Caveats: BellSouth Mobility and GTE Mobilnet

Non-Supporters: None

It is recommended that the LRN proposal be selected as the permanent long term call model for database number portability in Georgia. BellSouth Mobility's agreement is based on the caveats that 1) that their vote was a vote for a recommended solution if number portability is implemented, not a vote to implement number portability, 2) that an acceptable number portability implementation plan is developed for Georgia, and 3) that an acceptable cost recovery plan is implemented. GTE Mobilnet's agreement is based upon the caveats that they agree to support LRN as the long term call model if it is mandated by the Commission, and their significant concerns on costs as addressed in Section 2.5.

II. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN:

A. ALTERNATIVE IMPLEMENTATION APPROACHES:

Recommendation Option #1: LRN as the Implementation Plan

Full Supporters: BellSouth Telecommunications, MediaOne,
Standard, AirTouch, AT&T Wireless, BellSouth
Mobility

Supporters with Caveats: AT&T, MFS

Non-Supporters: MCI Metro

This recommendation involves the implementation of the LRN solution as soon as it becomes available, which is currently planned for the June to July, 1997 time frame. AT&T and MFS agree with this recommendation, with the caveat that if the LRN schedule is delayed significantly, then they would advocate CPC as an interim solution. In order to have the flexibility to implement CPC if needed, AT&T suggests developing a contingency plan for CPC deployment. It is suggested that interim check-points be established to closely monitor the LRN development and testing, and that the appropriate CPC contingency plans be developed as appropriate. MCI Metro concurs with this suggestion.

Recommendation Option #2: Interim CPC Migrating to LRN as the Implementation Plan

Full Supporters: MCI Metro

Supporters with Caveats: None

Non-Supporters: AT&T, BellSouth Telecommunications, MediaOne,
MFS, Standard, AT&T Wireless, AirTouch, BellSouth
Mobility

This recommendation involves the implementation of the CPC solution, which is based on the New York Trial, as soon as it becomes available, which is currently planned for the March to April, 1997 time frame. CPC would then be transitioned to LRN as soon as it becomes available.

B. PORTABILITY DEPLOYMENT

Recommendation #1: Portability Deployment

Full Supporters: All members of the Selection Committee

Regardless of the implementation plan ultimately adopted, the Selection Committee further recommends that number portability be implemented on a phased-in basis. Numbers should be made portable on an NXX basis in a manner determined jointly by the industry (see Section 3.4 for additional details).

III. INDUSTRY PROCESS:

Recommendation #1: Implementation Committee

Full Supporters: All members of the Selection Committee

The Selection Committee recognizes that the actual implementation of a number portability capability will require the ongoing efforts of an industry implementation committee to continually refine the solution and address issues as they arise. The Selection Committee therefore recommends that such a implementation committee be established to project manage and work the issues associated with the implementation of database number portability in Georgia.

Recommendation #2: Monitoring of the Effort

Full Supporters: All members of the Selection Committee

Because of the several open issues and risk factors associated with both implementation plans, and with the possibility that Georgia will be on the leading edge of implementing a database number portability solution, the Selection Committee recommends that the Commission establish frequent check-points throughout the implementation process to evaluate the status of the effort, to make any required course corrections, and to ensure that the direction established remains the best course of action for Georgia. These check-points should be established by the proposed implementation committee and jointly monitored with the Commission.

Recommendation #3: Cost Recovery

Full Supporters: All members of the Selection Committee

The industry needs to develop an appropriate cost recovery mechanism. The Selection Committee recommends that the industry work the cost recovery issues according to the process identified in Section 4.2, Item (8).

6.0 Requested Action from the Commission

While much has been accomplished to date by the Selection Committee, additional progress to bring true number portability to the Georgia market place is largely reliant on the work to be done in the coming months. In order to maximize the efficiency of the Selection Committee's efforts, it is essential that there are clear directions from the Georgia Commission. The areas in which direction is requested are listed below:

1. The Commission is asked to endorse the recommendations of the Selection Committee as identified in Section 5.0. This includes the endorsement of LRN as the permanent long term number portability call model for Georgia, and the endorsement of one of the implementation plan options, with their associated target implementation dates.
2. With regard to the assumptions and issues listed in Sections 3.0 and 4.0, the Commission is asked to provide endorsement of the assumptions offered, the issues identified and the processes suggested by the Selection Committee.

With the Commission's direction in the matters noted above, the Selection Committee believes that the industry can be successful in moving forward with local number portability in Georgia.

7.0 ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment #1: GPSC Staff Number Portability Guidelines
- Attachment #2: Selection Committee Framework Document
- Attachment #3: Framework Document Weightings
- Attachment #4: Selection Committee Call Model Voting Results
- Attachment #5: Implementation Issues
- Attachment #6: Companies Input on Implementation Plan Options
- Attachment #7: Implementation Plan Summary Schedules
- Attachment #8: Draft SMS Timeline
- Attachment #9: CPC to LRN Transition Sequence
- Attachment #10: Implementation Committee Structure
- Attachment #11: SMS Issues

**Attachment #1: GPSC Staff Number
Portability Guidelines**

Georgia Public Service Commission
Staff S.B. 137 Team
GPSC Docket No. 5840-U



NUMBER PORTABILITY GUIDELINES

GPSC STAFF

October 2, 1995

Statutory Objective:

- O.C.G.A. § 46-5-170 [A]ll local exchange companies shall make the necessary modifications to allow portability of local numbers between different certificated providers of local exchange service as soon as reasonably possible after such portability has been shown to be technically and economically feasible and in the public interest.
- O.C.G.A. § 46-5-168(b) The commission's jurisdiction shall include the authority to: . . .
(10) Direct telecommunications companies to make investments and modifications necessary to enable portability.
- O.C.G.A. § 46-5-162(13) Portability' means the technical capability that permits a customer to retain the same local number at the same customer location regardless of the provider of the local exchange service.
-

General Number Portability Guidelines:

- I. In Administrative Session on June 8, 1995, the Commission voted to conduct technical workshops for the purpose of investigating telephone number portability. This process has identified key segments in the Georgia telecommunications industry. These include incumbent LECs, (Certificated) Competing LECs, Interexchange Carriers, and Wireless Carriers. We encourage the development of a Selection Committee that consists of the aforementioned. This Committee shall have the responsibility to select the recommended number portability solution. The selection process shall be by consensus. If an industry consensus is not reached by January 8, 1996, the workshop approach will be discontinued and the Commission will provide further direction to all parties.
- II. Service provider portability should be implemented on a mid-term to long-term basis, as soon as technically feasible (i.e., works reliably according to the following guidelines) and economically feasible (i.e., cost-efficient). It is hoped that this solution can be implemented by the fourth quarter of 1996. Implementation should start with a selected group of wire centers, and based on success, branched to additional wire centers. In the meantime, interim approaches based upon voluntary industry negotiations will be allowed and encouraged.

- III. Transparency to the end user is essential. There should be no loss of functionality, quality, or access to services caused by the implementation of a number portability solution. Examples include: call setup time should be minimally impacted so callers do not discern any difference; users should see the *dialed* number when necessary to identify the called or calling number (such as on bills and for Caller ID); access to 911, E911, telephone relay service, information, and other services should remain available.
- IV. Use of existing network infrastructure and standards should be retained to the extent feasible and economical.
- V. Calls from non-number portability capable telecommunications providers must be accommodated. This includes completion of calls initiated over wireless carriers.
- VI. The solution should allow for open competition in the vendor community. Any architecture or approach should be part of the open public domain, free of any licensing fees. Proprietary approaches, or approaches with associated licensing fees, would limit the opportunity for open competition among providers of number portability solutions and the companies that purchase them.
- VII. The solution should ensure that the existing local exchange company/ies (LEC's) and the new LECs are benefitted in the same way and are required to deploy the same mandatory network capabilities regardless of their network topologies and whether the customers are switching from the existing LEC to a new LEC, from a new LEC to the existing LEC, or from one new LEC to another new LEC.
- VIII. The solution should immediately support portability of local numbers between different certificated wireline LECs. It should accommodate expanded volume usage, and future migration to permanent, national solutions. Ideally, the solution would allow for future support of all types of number portability on a permanent basis.
- IX. The solution should not unduly accelerate the depletion of the numbering resource. Ideally, the number portability solution should conserve the North American Numbering Plan (NANP). Therefore, solutions that allow for the pooling of numbers (initially at the NXX level) should be accorded more weight. Conversely, solutions that deplete the NANP would be less desirable.
- X. The Georgia solution should support a national effort, assuming that one emerges, to the fullest extent possible. It is hoped that the national effort will yield a standard for the call model and the network routing. Standardization will make it easier for vendors to build to the solution and for carriers to interact with it. Georgia, however, plans to implement a solution based on technical and economic feasibility within Georgia, without waiting for further efforts at the national level or in other jurisdictions.

Georgia Public Service Commission
Staff S.B. 137 Team
GPSC Docket No. 5840-U

NUMBER PORTABILITY TIMELINES
PROPOSED BY GPSC STAFF
October 2, 1995

OCTOBER 2, 1995	NUMBER PORTABILITY GUIDELINES RELEASED
NOVEMBER 7, 1995	NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING(NOPR)
DECEMBER 7, 1995	30-DAY COMMENT CYCLE FOR NOPR
DECEMBER 27, 1995	20-DAY PERIOD
JANUARY 8, 1996	ALL WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES END
FOURTH QUARTER 1996	IMPLEMENTATION OF TNP STARTS

Attachment #2:

**Selection Committee
Framework Document**

COMMISSIONERS

BOB BURDEN, CHAIRMAN
DAVID DAKE BAKER
ROBERT B. BOBBY BAKER JR.
MAC BARBER
STAN WISE



Attachment #2

WILLIAM L. DOWE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TERRY M. LINDALL
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Georgia Public Service Commission

244 WASHINGTON STREET, SW
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334-5701

(404)656-4501 OR 1(800)282-5813

October 11, 1995

Dear Number Portability Solution Proponent:

The Georgia Public Service Commission earlier this year opened Docket No. 5840-U, Telephone Number Portability, and is sponsoring a series of Number Portability Workshop meetings. The purpose of this workshop process is to facilitate the implementation of a permanent number portability solution in Georgia as soon as reasonably possible.

A voluntary industry Selection and Evaluation Committee ("Selection Committee") that formed within the Workshop developed the enclosed Request for Information, with an associated evaluation process and schedule. The Selection Committee finalized a Georgia Local Number Portability (LNP) Framework and it is enclosed, as well as the Number Portability Guidelines provided by the Commission Staff to all participants in the October 2-3, 1995 Workshop meeting. As part of the Commission Staff's efforts to facilitate these voluntary industry activities, we are sending this Request for Information (with attachments) to proponents of potential portability solutions. Additional copies are available by contacting Ken Ellison of the Commission Staff (404-656-4536).

The Workshop, through its Selection Committee, requests information addressing each provision of the Georgia Local Number Portability Framework from all interested potential solution proponents. Those interested in making a proposal and subsequent presentation to the Selection Committee according to the schedule outlined below are asked to:

1. Provide a written response to the Georgia LNP Framework document by close of business October 30, 1995. In order to expedite the review process, please provide a copy directly to each member of the Selection Committee and the Commission Staff representatives identified on the enclosed Selection Committee list.
2. Complete the Indication of Interest Form also enclosed, and return it (via mail or fax) by the close of business October 18, 1995, to David Brevitz (Commission Staff consultant) (913-272-8262 and fax 913-272-8789).

The Selection Committee's goal is to formulate an agreed industry-developed recommendation and report, and submit it to the Georgia Public Service Commission on January 8, 1996. Toward that goal, the Committee members created the following schedule of activities:

Issue Georgia LNP Framework	October 10, 1995
Written responses due to Selection Committee	October 30, 1995
Formal presentations by proponents to Selection Committee and Workshop (Location: Georgia Department of Transportation Bldg. 2 Capitol Square, Room 401, Atlanta, Georgia)	November 6-7, 1995
Written questions to proponents from Selection Committee	November 13, 1995
Written responses from proponents to Selection Committee	November 28, 1995
Evaluation by Selection Committee (Atlanta, Georgia)	December 5-7, 1995
Selection and determination of implementation process and schedule	December 19-20, 1995
Draft Recommendation and Report	January 3-4, 1996
Finalize Recommendation and Report (regular Workshop meeting)	January 5, 1996
Submit Recommendation and Report to Georgia Public Service Commission	January 8, 1996

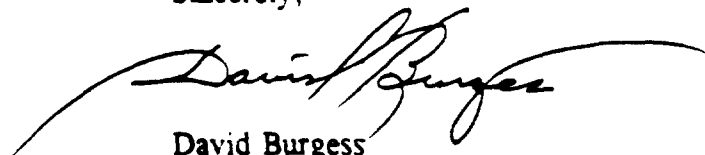
The Commission would then take any action it finds appropriate. The final structure for implementing any proposed solution will also need to be developed; for example, one possibility would be an industry consortium working directly with the solution proponent.

If you have any questions regarding the Georgia LNP Framework document, you may call:

Wireline sections--	Loraine Beyer	205-977-5029
Wireless sections--	Charlene Meins	206-803-1232

The Commission Staff recognizes and appreciates all the efforts of the telecommunications industry to develop a portability solution.

Sincerely,



David Burgess
Director, Rates & Tariffs Section

cc: Selection Committee members